

brooklynshanti



07160816454

MISSED AMERICA (LA CRISIS)

07160816454

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For Mila Aishwarya & Ava Mala
My favorite humans

MUMBAI FLY

16 mm on a film reel

Watch my millimeter go *BANG* now, how it feel?

A cess pool forms underneath record deals

I survived only 'cause I empathize with Seal

Went crazy hoping for a kiss from a Rose

Thought I'd return for a girl in Puerto Rico

The concerto of the solo Bengal flow

Others tried to coincide, but they're baby powder coke

Blow

This dimension's full of gambling

Champion sound vs your habit for rambling

Sub zero, frozen like a mannequin

Whether to love or hate: The condition that the planet's in

Green on that envy tip, green from experience

Green be the circumstance, as far as the eye see

Green mile walking, ensuring the fear fits

Million dollar man, type Dibiasi

RECORDED AT HOTEL DIPLOMAT, MUMBAI & WASHINGTON D.C. NOVEMBER 2017

BENGALI INNA DI DANCE

I'll start a fire and put my bad memories there
Can't remember the names, can remember the air
Wore sunglasses at night, was reducing the glare
In here now the people be seducing stares
We need a little love, I stay producing care
Art with heart and soul be elusive and rare
I got hope while people be mad stressed
Lost trust in heroes and even the press
All we really want is ideal love
To run out in the rain screaming, "I feel loved"
Power makes people wanna steal love
Ayo, Mary J, can we try real love?
I don't got much but a whole lotta words
People of the Earth gotta make em into verbs
I play a mirror, sometimes I hit a nerve
Energy boomerangs, we get what we deserve

* *Bangla verse is interpolated from Kishore Kumar*

RECORDED IN KHAR, MUMBAI NOVEMBER 2017

DICTATORS

Dictators. Murderers.

War rhetoric delivered by Twitter character

Questions. Never no answer

We do it for the dollar. Welcome to America

It ain't a civil war like it's Cool Hand Luke

Reality television's pushing buttons for nukes

White supremacy. Propaganda. Waiting.

Syndicated Satan doing it all for ratings

Charlottesville and Vegas - don't need a fortuneteller

Normalize the hate and call it Cinderella

Hate breeds hate, look at all the factors

Discredit: Comedians, executives and actors

Turning on one another, yeah we had to turn a chapter

Fighting with one another to a president's laughter

You got a dirty secret? Time for surfacing

So long as we're divided, nobody can hurt the "king"

My pen game, like ten flames, I take aim
Prospect prosperity, intending to claim
Nabin Laskar – ain't hiding behind a stage name
I'm always gonna be wrong: Watch how I take blame
Programmed by people that never give chance
Money over love – immigrant circumstance
What
I don't need cuffs and a prison
Inferiority complex been how I'm living
Citizen of the United States of Vice
Brown fluid in the glass waiting for the ICE
To white people claiming I "act bad"
Go do some yoga over in Baghdad
Stars and stripes, my flag's at half-mast
I don't attend mass, but rock it in math class
Future man type with the future planned right
Look past the media, understand hype

RECORDED IN SEATTLE, WASHINGTON NOVEMBER 2017

BLOCKCHAIN INSANE

Walking through Cali in a white tee
V-neck, and I see nobody like me
Is it my past or the future that I might be?
Big belly be like the swoosh to my Nike
Franklin - stacking for the kite key
Bedstuy. Bengali, next Spike Lee
Ain't futuristic, still it ain't vintage
Creating for the God fearing to the sinners
Nabin: The sick fiend that stay up on a 16
Nightmare and fairy, tale lyrically mixed dreams
Dollop to the dollar - always on that mixed cream
One man show...there ain't beating this team
Always finish what I started, never claimed to be smartest
Everyone I ever looked up to was an artist
These days people come to see me flow
Conditions ending oppression - CEO

If they don't let me bubble I'mma float up from the bath
Wouldn't let me get a word in now I take a paragraph
Racing stripe rhymer - blur around the track
Left & right brain put my art up in the math
I don't claim Virginia or even Kakalak
Brooklyn claimed me but it couldn't hold me back
India was calling, Cavo put me on the map
Drew outside the line because the industry's a trap
Grew into my own - was released from my shackles
Chanting on my mantras, converting them to battles
Hole up in ya chest, where love should be the spackle
Rickshaw to low rider - make your trunk rattle
The world will keep moving even if ya don't wanna
Turn off the echo chamber, drama is a trauma
I'mma be a guide through the digital divide
Meditation on the moment truth and lie collide

RECORDED IN LOS ANGELES & WASHINGTON D.C. NOVEMBER 2017

KOLKATA JEDI

Track panels and white fur
Jack Daniels and eyes blurred
In the middle of the dance floor, hearts beat
Phasers set to stun, leader of the Star Fleet
Maar peet – never for the Kent Clark
Curated in lingerie, my dream girl present art
Go kart pushing for the winning lap
Egos wanna rap, I live in the boom bap
Moon tracks connected on the forearm
Narcotic toupee, wanna keep their hair on
Farrakhan type Leader of the New School
I Busta Rhyme quicker than liquor inside an inner belly
What you wanna tell me? Telly Savalas
Bumaye, better Watch out for This
Megalomaniac, why you even rapping for?
Spirit of a Brahman, power of a...

Third wheel, my life's a star date
Rolling with dimes to the penny arcade
It be Nabin Laskar
Passport stamp into Madagascar
Rap star – converting non-believers
Bollywood Diamond Crook, Suede and Cheeba
My Queen Latifah, Monie Loving Native Tongues
Kolkata Jedi, I remain forever young

As the New World Order up, side order of robbery
As if we ain't had enough tickets to a false prophet lottery
If you wanna talk it, then you'd better do it
Brooklyn Shanti: God influence
Oooh it's back to track paneling
Whiskey for life's shipping and handling
Channeling the cosmos, aliens
Weigh the love energy I be sailing in
Skipper, I'm off with Ginger – Gilligan
Bengali coconut life force spilling in
Create dialogue with vaginal
Id over Ego – fantastical
Megalomaniac, why you even rapping for?
Spirit of a Brahman, power of a...

RECORDED IN BROOKLYN, NEW YORK & RICHMOND, VIRGINIA NOVEMBER 2017

BLADE RUNNERS

It goes: Kicks, snares enveloped by the stares
Mumbai fly, Hindu Fab 5
You was never there to put hands in the air
Dum Dum brought it live all the way from Bedstuy
Talking heads stuck on stupid
Perfection on a vinyl & we loop it
These the breaks - somebody had to do it
Y'all ain't really hard, go politic with Cupid
I'm not a sucka so I don't need a bodyguard
I stay in the lab while you're hotel lobby hard
One bookbag - travel the world, vagabond
What you stand for – what's ya whole dialog?
I do it for myself: The principle I'm dying on
Bengali Blade Runner, the life that I'm designing on
Move aside, this ain't no kiddie ride
The Ghetto is Red Hot, you about to step inside

* *Bangla verse is interpolated from Sukumar Ray's Abol Tabol*

RECORDED AT HOTEL DIPLOMAT, MUMBAI & ATLANTA, GEORGIA NOVEMBER 2017

HIMALAYAN HOUDINI

Kolkata. Taste it in the air
Pre-singularity by 12 years
After 40 solar rotations
Used to be a satellite, now a space station
Heavy from my thoughts. Heavy from depression
Heavy in my heart, love is always my intention
Self imposed detention in physical dimensions
Every step I take is five in regression
Why it gotta be a party under rain clouds?
Will God hear me if I pray real loud?
Sill She come to save me from saving me?
I've mastered this level - it's straight slavery
"Can love heal?" is what they all say to me
Nabin is where Shanti and Nathan used to be
"Can love heal?" is what they all say to me
Nabin is where Shanti and Nathan used to be

I wrote this in the year of ride based apps
Before machines ran through synapse
Before they became sin apps
And humanity collapsed
The year of the global trap
A single book bag and I flew around the map
Bengali from Brooklyn traveling with raps
Official Hindustani boom bap
Take a step back, look at the bird's eye
Natural disasters that make a dove cry
Shortage of clean water, next comes the air
Welcome to New Delhi - we already here
Less politicians - the internet don't care
If we massacre each other before solar flares
Wrote this before AI started writing,
Erasing human art and the world stopped fighting it

RECORDED IN SEATTLE, WASHINGTON & WASHINGTON, D.C. DECEMBER 2017

RACHAEL TYRELL

Obsession, wouldn't learn her lesson
Couldn't get a word in edge-wise, she a felon
Cerebellum dented from tequila
A bottle at a time, feel the heat around the corner
Pre-madonna, post-modern infant
Long lines of split legs result in wicked
Blinkin – Gladwell with my blow out
Never graduated, operated with my know out
Nose out, Pinnochio complex
Biogenomic robot sex flex
Everybody want a bit of pharma to calm the
State of the human condition, the drama
Being alive and awake be the trauma
Living it right but we wait for the comma
Hindu, third eye shaping the karma
Second life, never debate the insomnia

Now I know as sure as the moon glow
In the heat of the night, I'mma hold you close
You can feel it started, I can't do nothing about it
I'll give up everything just for a moment

Out of the dark, pull me to the light
In the heat of the night, if I play my cards right
You can feel it started, I can't do nothing about it
I'll give up everything just for a moment with you

Correction, turned up the freeway
Connection: Working what she say
Into the stories that take back fairytales
Dreams of the seas that we wanna set sail
Up with the hoist, starboard land fade
Female, never listen to what her man say
Set adrift in a sea of the champagne
Bubble type, what it be is a damned shame
President – memory of the campaign
Resident – of a bitter man's pain
What I feel about the situation - can gain
Burning man: Hide behind the face paint
Stand straight, put the rulers in a straight line
Scared to death ruling points of desire
In the end, we revisit karma
Government painting the people as monsters

RECORDED IN BROOKLYN, NEW YORK & RICHMOND, VIRGINIA NOVEMBER 2017

SUSHMA

What's gonna happen when the bottled water's gone?
How we gonna breathe? They're canning up the air
I'm just a builder & an architect of songs
Praying that you'll pay attention and somebody will care

Ain't no phone ringing saying it's the end of days
We slipping out of consciousness into altered states
Animal impulse when the world becomes a stage
Plugged into the matrix the world becomes a cage

Logged off my social, keep my mind local
Hear my inner voice coming through my vocal
Seeing what it is, focus on the focal
Reality got me in a chokehold
Always knew that a time like this would
Come for us - timing's never been this good
Power to convince like a first kiss could
Lumberjack rhymes - chopping this wood
Nabin on flex connect Chandigarh
First class people treat me like a star
Never need special treatment, who we are
Be the revolution - we been watching from afar
Do you know my convo? Do you see my kinfolk?
My story never been told. You don't know what you in for..

RECORDED IN LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA & GUJARAT, INDIA NOVEMBER 2017

REALITY CZAR

For every grain of sand experienced by you and I
There's an Earth-like planet capable of having life
Humans driven by greed symbolic through ego
Call it progress to eliminate the people
Call it capitalist, treating life as capital
If you'd trade it all for love you get labeled radical
Trade it for religion, salvation is collateral
I just wanna be still - shackled to sabbatical
Quiet down - the thoughts block out the prayers
Committees of "yes men" the same as naysayers
I came to bear the gifts like, came to offer alms
So I can find my baby's arms she'll know me through my songs
Hope she come quick, its already taken long
Silent in the momentary shaken from the calm
Hope she come quick, its already been long
Silent in the momentary shaken from the calm – it's shanti

Everything under the sun - got that melanin
Pass rush against the [insert Cosby voice] “pudding & gelatin”
Anti-internet whisper, go tell a friend
They killed before no telling when they’ll kill again
20 hour flights connecting through the travel ban
Every White American might as well be Taliban
“Random selection” ain’t natural selection
We peace loving y’all: Call the 2nd amendment
Question mark: When the world go zero dark
The Iron Man protocol even failed Tony Stark
Stark naked baby powder for the Empress
Split where the heart go, aim it for the center breast
Repel from the side of the hellicop
Politics on the ‘Gram nothing more than a photo op
When reality stars became the real czars
The world didn’t hear: We was calling all cars

RECORDED IN MUMBAI, INDIA & BROOKLYN, NEW YORK NOVEMBER 2017

ELECTRIC SHEEP (MI AMORE)

What do Androids dream of?
Is it human or Hindu, could we all be love?
What's more, when we conversate this
Imagining a culture eliminating risk
To achieve what humans can't believe
Get rid of flesh and blood, exterminate disease
Germinate the ways in an artificial gaze
Ride singularity till the end of days
It's better than the poor never being rich
It's better than the healthy never being sick
It's better than an individual thought
It's better than criminals never being caught
AI never sleeps while the humanoid weakness
Take on patterns that'll someday debase it
If saving civilization be the objective
Killing off humans is natural selection

Mi amore, mi amore - we ain't never seen nothing like this before
Mi amore, mi amor-ay they coming for humanity end of story
Mi amore, mi amore - we ain't never seen nothing like this before
Mi amore, mi amor-ay they coming forus now, end of story

I'm in love with a hologram
It's a reflection of how hollow I am
Nothing more than lust on the 'Gram
Being in a crowd where nobody know who I am
Love as a chat bot convo
Tricking my intuition - pleasure the goal
How is it different from prostitution?
When human interaction ain't a solution
Gotta take another look at what we given
More people, less algorithm
Cure for cancer, cure for AIDS
Thought crime, they disappear us without a trace
Trade off - we just before the face off
Light switch - turn the human race off
Capitalism is the main objective
Killing the poor is natural selection

RECORDED IN WASHINGTON, D.C. DECEMBER 2017

MAGIC FLYING RUGS

Can't fit a square peg into a round hole
Or mend broken hearts with a lost soul
Pretty faces, high heels, fishnets
Birds eye view, watching y'all on swing sets
Punch drunk thugs - magic flying rugs
Instead of buying hate you should be trying love
Nothing is for free now it's time to pay the price
Got you in the sights of gentrified Crown Heights
Full clips of rhymes vs a petty crime
I'm from the generation that's violent by design
White powder gives the sniffer perceived power
In the face of truth, he only believes dollars
Abusing women saying it's for they benefit
Nothing makes, sense subject to predicate
Got a taste for that primary of deviance?
Cool story bro - ain't nobody believing it

Let my magic carpet ride
Let my magic carpet glide
Let my magic carpet slide

RECORDED IN SEATTLE, WASHINGTON & WASHINGTON, D.C. DECEMBER 2017

2029

Ira Glass haze - This American Life
Forever been betrayed - this American knife
Existed in the mind of an American sniper
De Facto capitalist pulling an all-nighter
Who's to blame for the internet? Every writer
Using handsets instead of starting fires with lighters
Can't let water go to wash them hands clean
Permanent stains from the blood dripping gasoline
I can't take a bow, I can't take a vow
I can't even pause in the moments of the now
Can't breathe deep I need a moment from the crowd
If this result in love somebody show me how
Somebody take the flow help the domination grow
Never question just go - rewire status quo
One thing that I know is humanity's past tense
If we Foxconn each other diving into vast nets

RECORDED AT HOTEL DIPLOMAT, MUMBAI NOVEMBER 2017

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Featured Vocalists: Dusty, Vayu, Tanjina Islam

Featured DJs: DeeJay Chilly, DJ Lokash

Guest Producers: Neon84, Dub Sharma

Album mixed and mastered by Cliquebeit

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Executive Producer: N. N. Laskar

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01. *Mumbai Fly* written by N. Laskar & S. Barksdale
02. *Bengali Inna Di Dance* written by N. Laskar & K. Kumar
03. *Dictators* written by N. Laskar & W. Meyers
04. *Blockchain Insane* written by N. Laskar & S. Barksdale
05. *Kolkata Jedi* written by N. Laskar & B. Barca *
06. *Blade Runners* written by N. Laskar & L. Williams, T. Islam, S. Ray
07. *Himalayan Houdini* written by N. Laskar & S. Barksdale, W. Meyers
08. *Rachael Tyrell* written by N. Laskar & B. Barca *
09. *Sushma* written by N. Laskar & D. Sharma *
10. *Reality Czar* written by N. Laskar & L. Williams
11. *Electric Sheep* written by N. Laskar & E.L. Copeland
12. *Magic Flying Rugs* written by N. Laskar & E.L. Copeland
13. *2029* written by N. Laskar
14. *Missed America* written by N. Laskar, A. Ginsberg & P. Smolin

All songs produced by Brooklyn Shanti except *
05 & 08 produced and mixed by Neon84
09 produced and mixed by Dub Sharma

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APPENDIX

There are many works which contributed to this album and here I would like to suggest picking up a specific few, reading them for the first time or re-reading as a refresher. These are merely entry level selections meant for more casual engagement. I'm also including links to the various lectures and discussions, in full, which I incorporated into the album. My hope is they will allow you to form your own opinions in order to fuel discussion in the near future.

BOOKS

1984, George Orwell

Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep, Philip K. Dick

Minority Report, Philip K. Dick

Neuromancer, William Gibson

Ready Player One, Ernest Cline

Little Heroes, Norman Spinrad

BROOKLYN, NEW YORK JANUARY 2018

APPENDIX

ONLINE

(Titles below are hyperlinked and/or can be searched verbatim)

Psychiatrist Robert Jay Lifton on Duty to Warn- Trump's "Relation to Reality" is Dangerous to Us All

Timothy Leary discussing Spiritual technology

What happens when our computers get smarter than we are
- Nick Bostrom

Neil deGrasse Tyson vs Ray Kurzweil On The Singularity

OSHO - You Have Everything, but You Don't Have Yourself

Marshall McLuhan Full lecture - The medium is the message
- 1977 part 1 v 3

Philip K Dick discloses the real Matrix in 1977

Neil deGrasse Tyson- We're likely living in a simulation
- Larry King Now - Ora.TV

THANK YOU

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